

KINASE INHIBITORS FOR THE TREATMENT OF DISEASE

5 CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This patent application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/389,416, filed March 13, 2003, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/306,975, filed November 27, 2002.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field Of The Invention

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The present invention relates to prodrugs of compounds capable of modulating, regulating and/or inhibiting tyrosine kinase signal transduction. The present invention is also directed to methods of regulating, modulating or inhibiting tyrosine kinases, whether of the receptor or non-receptor class, for the prevention and/or treatment of disorders related to unregulated tyrosine kinase signal transduction, including cell growth, metabolic, and blood vessel proliferative disorders.

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2. Description Of The Related Art

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Protein tyrosine kinases (PTKs) comprise a large and diverse class of proteins having enzymatic activity. The PTKs play an important role in the control of cell growth and differentiation.

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For example, receptor tyrosine kinase mediated signal transduction is initiated by extracellular interaction with a specific growth factor (ligand), followed by receptor dimerization, transient stimulation of the intrinsic protein tyrosine kinase activity and phosphorylation. Binding sites are thereby created for intracellular signal transduction molecules and lead to the formation of complexes

with a spectrum of cytoplasmic signaling molecules that facilitate the appropriate cellular response (e.g., cell division, metabolic homeostasis, and responses to the extracellular microenvironment).

With respect to receptor tyrosine kinases, it has been shown also that
5 tyrosine phosphorylation sites function as high-affinity binding sites for SH2 (src
homology) domains of signaling molecules. Several intracellular substrate proteins
that associate with receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs) have been identified. They
may be divided into two principal groups: (1) substrates which have a catalytic
domain; and (2) substrates which lack such domain but serve as adapters and
10 associate with catalytically active molecules. The specificity of the interactions
between receptors or proteins and SH2 domains of their substrates is determined by
the amino acid residues immediately surrounding the phosphorylated tyrosine
residue. Differences in the binding affinities between SH2 domains and the amino
acid sequences surrounding the phosphotyrosine residues on particular receptors are
15 consistent with the observed differences in their substrate phosphorylation profiles.
These observations suggest that the function of each receptor tyrosine kinase is
determined not only by its pattern of expression and ligand availability but also by
the array of downstream signal transduction pathways that are activated by a
particular receptor. Thus, phosphorylation provides an important regulatory step
20 which determines the selectivity of signaling pathways recruited by specific growth
factor receptors, as well as differentiation factor receptors.

Aberrant expression or mutations in the PTKs have been shown to lead to
either uncontrolled cell proliferation (e.g. malignant tumor growth) or to defects in
key developmental processes. Consequently, the biomedical community has
25 expended significant resources to discover the specific biological role of members
of the PTK family, their function in differentiation processes, their involvement in
tumorigenesis and in other diseases, the biochemical mechanisms underlying their
signal transduction pathways activated upon ligand stimulation and the
development of novel drugs.

Tyrosine kinases can be of the receptor-type (having extracellular, transmembrane and intracellular domains) or the non-receptor type (being wholly intracellular).

The RTKs comprise a large family of transmembrane receptors with diverse biological activities. The intrinsic function of RTKs is activated upon ligand binding, which results in phosphorylation of the receptor and multiple cellular substrates, and subsequently in a variety of cellular responses.

At present, at least nineteen (19) distinct RTK subfamilies have been identified. One RTK subfamily, designated the HER subfamily, is believed to be comprised of EGFR, HER2, HER3 and HER4. Ligands to the Her subfamily of receptors include epithelial growth factor (EGF), TGF- α , amphiregulin, HB-EGF, betacellulin and heregulin.

A second family of RTKs, designated the insulin subfamily, is comprised of the INS-R, the IGF-1R and the IR-R. A third family, the "PDGF" subfamily includes the PDGF α and β receptors, CSFIR, c-kit and FLK-II. Another subfamily of RTKs, identified as the FLK family, is believed to be comprised of the Kinase insert Domain-Receptor fetal liver kinase-1 (KDR/FLK-1), the fetal liver kinase 4 (FLK-4) and the fms-like tyrosine kinase 1 (flt-1). Each of these receptors was initially believed to be receptors for hematopoietic growth factors. Two other subfamilies of RTKs have been designated as the FGF receptor family (FGFR1, FGFR2, FGFR3 and FGFR4) and the Met subfamily (c-met and Ron).

Because of the similarities between the PDGF and FLK subfamilies, the two subfamilies are often considered together. The known RTK subfamilies are identified in Plowman et al, 1994, DN&P 7(6): 334-339, which is incorporated herein by reference.

The non-receptor tyrosine kinases represent a collection of cellular enzymes which lack extracellular and transmembrane sequences. At present, over twenty-four individual non-receptor tyrosine kinases, comprising eleven (11) subfamilies (Src, Frk, Btk, Csk, Abl, Zap70, Fes/Fps, Fak, Jak, Ack and LIMK) have been

identified. At present, the Src subfamily of non-receptor tyrosine kinases is comprised of the largest number of PTKs and include Src, Yes, Fyn, Lyn, Lck, Blk, Hck, Fgr and Yrk. The Src subfamily of enzymes has been linked to oncogenesis. A more detailed discussion of non-receptor tyrosine kinases is provided in Bolen,
5 1993, *Oncogen* 8: 2025-2031, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Many of the tyrosine kinases, whether an RTK or non-receptor tyrosine kinase, have been found to be involved in cellular signaling pathways leading to cellular signal cascades leading to pathogenic conditions, including cancer, psoriasis and hyper immune response.

10 In view of the surmised importance of PTKs to the control, regulation and modulation of cell proliferation the diseases and disorders associated with abnormal cell proliferation, many attempts have been made to identify receptor and non-receptor tyrosine kinase "inhibitors" using a variety of approaches, including the use of mutant ligands (U.S. Patent No. 4,966,849), soluble receptors and antibodies
15 (PCT Application No. WO 94/10202; Kendall & Thomas, 1994, *Proc. Nat'l Acad. Sci* 90: 10705-09; Kim, et al, 1993, *Nature* 362: 841-844), RNA ligands (Jellinek, et al, *Biochemistry* 33: 10450-56); Takano, et al, 1993, *Mol. Bio. Cell* 4:358A; Kinsella, et al, 1992, *Exp. Cell Res.* 199: 56-62; Wright, et al, 1992, *J. Cellular Phys.* 152: 448-57) and tyrosine kinase inhibitors (PCT Application Nos. WO
20 94/03427; WO 92/21660; WO 91/15495; WO 94/14808; U.S. Patent No. 5,330,992; Mariani, et al, 1994, *Proc. Am. Assoc. Cancer Res.* 35: 2268).

More recently, attempts have been made to identify small molecules which act as tyrosine kinase inhibitors. For example, bis monocyclic, bicyclic or heterocyclic aryl compounds (PCT Application No. WO 92/20642), vinylene-
25 azaindole derivatives (PCT Application No. WO 94/14808) and 1-cyclopropyl-4-pyridyl-quinolones (U.S. Patent No. 5,330,992) have been described generally as tyrosine kinase inhibitors. Styryl compounds (U.S. Patent No. 5,217,999), styryl-substituted pyridyl compounds (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,606), certain quinazoline derivatives (EP Application No. 0 566 266 A1), seleoindoles and selenides (PCT

Application No. WO 94/03427), tricyclic polyhydroxylic compounds (PCT Application No. WO 92/21660) and benzylphosphonic acid compounds (PCT Application No. WO 91/15495) have been described as compounds for use as tyrosine kinase inhibitors for use in the treatment of cancer.

5 The identification of effective small compounds which specifically inhibit signal transduction by modulating the activity of receptor and non-receptor tyrosine kinases to regulate and modulate abnormal or inappropriate cell proliferation is therefore desirable and one object of this invention.

 Finally, certain small compounds are disclosed in U.S. Patents 5,792,783; 10 5,834,504; 5,883,113; 5,883,116 and 5,886,020 as useful for the treatment of diseases related to unregulated TKS transduction. These patents are hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety for the purpose of disclosing starting materials and methods for the preparation thereof, screens and assays to determine a claimed compound's ability to modulate, regulate and/or inhibit cell proliferation, 15 indications which are treatable with said compounds, formulations and routes of administration, effective dosages, etc.

 As background to the present invention the concept of prodrugs which is well known in the art. Prodrugs are derivatives of drugs, which after administration undergo conversion to the physiologically active species. This conversion may be 20 due caused by hydrolysis in the physiological environment, or be due to enzymatic hydrolysis. The following literature is cited: Design of Pro-drugs (Bundgaard H. ed.) 1985 Elsevier Science Publishers B.V. (Biomedical Division), Chapter 1; Design of Prodrugs: Bioreversible derivatives for various functional groups and chemical entities (Hans Bundgaard); Bundgaard et al. Int. J. of Pharmaceutics 22 25 (1984) 45-56 (Elsevier); Bundgaard et al Int. J. of Pharmaceutics 29 (1986) 19-28 (Elsevier); Bundgaard et al. J. Med. Chem. 32 (1989) 2503-2507 Chem. Abstracts 95, 138493f (Bundgaard et al.); Chem. Abstracts 95, 138592n (Bundgaard et al.); Chem Abstracts 110, 57664p (Alminger et al.) Chem. Abstracts 115, 64029s (Buur et al.); Chem Abstracts 115, 189582y (Hansen et al.); Chem. Abstracts 117, 14347q

(Bundgaard et al.); Chem. Abstracts 117, 55790x (Jensen et al.); and Chem Abstracts 123, 17593b (Thomsen et al).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES

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Figure 1 shows the general scheme for the preparation of the compounds of this invention, in particular the compounds of Examples 2-6, 8 and 9.

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Figure 2 shows the general scheme for the preparation of the compounds of this invention, in particular the compounds of Examples 12 and 13.

Figure 3 shows the general scheme for the preparation of the compounds of this invention, in particular the compounds of Examples 15, 16, 19 and 21.

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

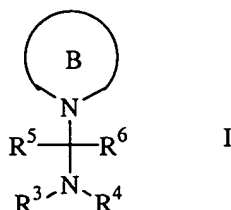
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The present invention relates to organic molecules capable of modulating, regulating and/or inhibiting tyrosine kinase signal transduction. Such compounds are useful for the treatment of diseases related to unregulated TKS transduction, including cell proliferative diseases such as cancer, atherosclerosis, restenosis, metabolic diseases such as diabetes, inflammatory diseases such as psoriasis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, vascular proliferative disorders such as diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration and retinopathy of prematurity, autoimmune diseases and transplant rejection.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In one illustrative embodiment, the compounds of the present invention have the formula I:



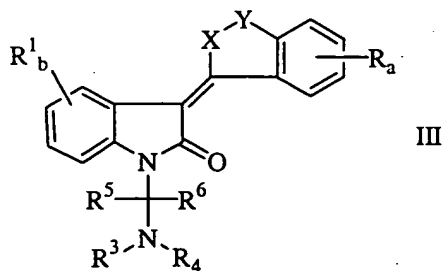
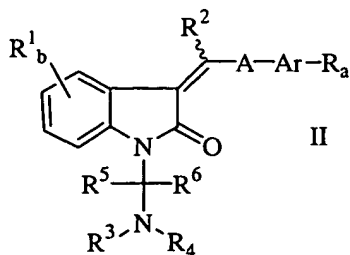
wherein the fragment B represents a tyrosine kinase inhibitor or serine threonine kinase inhibitor containing a nitrogen atom capable of reacting with formaldehyde, a substituted aldehyde or substituted ketone and an amine to provide a compound of formula I and wherein;

5 R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydrocarbyl and substituted hydrocarbyl radicals, wherein said substituted hydrocarbyl may be substituted with heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of halogen, e.g. fluoro, chloro, bromo, or iodo, nitrogen, phosphorus, sulfur and oxygen, or R^3 and R^4 together with the nitrogen atom may form a cyclic ring, which ring may be substituted with said heteroatoms, e.g. R^3 and R^4 may be selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, alkyloxyalkyl, aryl, aryloxy, alkylaryl and alkaryloxy; and

10 R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aryl radicals. Preferably, R^5 and R^6 are hydrogen.

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In a preferred embodiment the compounds of the present invention have the formula II or III:



20 wherein;

X is O or $C(R^2)_2$;

Y is $[C(R^2)_2]_c$;

A is NR^2 or absent;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, NO_2 , CN,

- 5 hydrocarbyl and substituted hydrocarbyl radicals, wherein said substituted hydrocarbyl may be substituted with heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of halogen, e.g. fluoro, chloro, bromo, or iodo, nitrogen, phosphorus, sulfur and oxygen, e.g. C_1 to C_4 alkyl and aryl, e.g. phenyl, and when b is 1, R^1 is preferably chloro;

- 10 R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 to C_8 alkyl, $(CR^8R^9)_dC(O)OR^{10}$, $COCH_3$, CH_2CH_2OH , $CH_2CH_2CH_2OH$ and phenyl;

R is selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydrocarbyl and substituted hydrocarbyl radicals, wherein said substituted hydrocarbyl may be substituted with heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of halogen, e.g. fluoro, chloro,

- 15 bromo, or iodo, nitrogen, phosphorus, sulfur and oxygen, e.g. R may be selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_1 to C_8 alkyl, CF_3 , OCF_3 , OCF_2H , CH_2CN , CN, SR^2 , $(CR^8R^9)_dC(O)OR^2$, $(CR^8R^9)_dC(O)N(R^2)_2$, $(CR^8R^9)_dOR^2$, $HNC(O)R^2$, $HN-C(O)OR^2$, $(CR^8R^9)_dN(R^2)_2$, $SO_2(CR^8R^9)_dN(R^2)_2$, $OP(O)(OR^2)_2$, $OC(O)OR^2$, OCH_2O , $HN-CH=CH$, $-N(COR^2)CH_2CH_2$, $HC=N-NH$, $N=CH-S$, $O(CR^8R^9)_eR^7$,
 20 $(CR^8R^9)_dR^7$ and $-NR_2(CR^8R^9)_eR^7$ wherein R^7 is selected from the group consisting of halogen, 3-fluoropyrrolidinyl, 3-fluoropiperidinyl, 2-pyridinyl, 3-pyridinyl, 4-pyridinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, methyl isonipecotate, N-(2-methoxyethyl)-N-methylamyl, 1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridinyl, morpholinyl, hexamethyleneiminyl, piperazinyl-2-one, piperazinyl, N-(2-methoxyethyl)ethylaminyl, thiomorpholinyl, heptamethyleneiminyl, 1-piperazinylcarboxaldehyde, 2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-(1H)-1,4-diazepinyl-5(4H)-one, N-methylhomopiperazinyl, (3-dimethylamino)pyrrolidinyl, N-(2-methoxyethyl)-N-propylaminyl, isoindolinyl, nipecotamidinyl, isonipecotamidinyl, 1-acetyl piperazinyl, 3-acetamidopyrrolidinyl, trans-decahydroisoquinolinyl, cis-

- decahydroisoquinoliny, N-acetylhomopiperaziny, 3-(diethylamino)pyrrolidinyl, 1,4-dioxo-8-azaspiro[4.5]decaniny, 1-(2-methoxyethyl)-piperaziny, 2-pyrrolidin-3-ylpyridiny, 4-pyrrolidin-3-ylpyridiny, 3-(methylsulfonyl)pyrrolidinyl, 3-picolylmethylaminyl, 2-(2-methylaminoethyl)pyridiny, 1-(2-pyrimidyl)-
- 5 piperaziny, 1-(2-pyraziny)-piperaziny, 2-methylaminomethyl-1,3-dioxolane, 2-(N-methyl-2-aminoethyl)-1,3-dioxolane, 3-(N-acetyl-N-methylamino)pyrrolidinyl, 2-methoxyethylaminyl, tetrahydrofurfurylaminyl, 4-aminotetrahydropyran, 2-amino-1-methoxybutane, 2-methoxyisopropylaminyl, 1-(3-aminopropyl)imidazole, histamyl, N,N-diisopropylethylenediaminy, 1-benzyl-3-aminopyrrolidyl 2-
- 10 (aminomethyl)-5-methylpyraziny, 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolane-4-methanaminyl, (R)-3-amino-1-N-BOC-pyrrolidinyl, 4-amino-1,2,2,6,6-pentamethylpiperidinyl, 4-aminomethyltetrahydropyran, ethanolamine and alkyl-substituted derivatives thereof; provided said alkyl or phenyl radicals may be substituted with one or two halo, hydroxy or lower alkyl amino radicals;
- 15 wherein R^8 and R^9 may be selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, e.g. F, hydroxy, and C_1 - C_4 alkyl or CR^8R^9 may represent a carbocyclic ring of from 3 to 6 carbons, preferably R^8 and R^9 are H or CH_3 , preferably in the compounds of Formula III when a is 1, R is dimethyl amino and in the compounds of Formula II when a is 1, R is morpholonyl;
- 20 R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 , are as defined above;
 R^{10} is hydrogen, C_1 to C_8 alkyl or arylalkyl;
a is 0 or an integer of from 1 to 3;
b is 0 or an integer of from 1 to 3;
c is an integer of from 1 to 2;
25 d is 0 or an integer of from 1 to 5
e is an integer of from 2 to 5
the wavy line represents a E or Z bond; and
Ar is selected from the group consisting of aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, and substituted heteroaryl, wherein said substituted hydrocarbonyl or said substituted

heteroaryl may be substituted with heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of halogen, e.g. fluoro, chloro, bromo, or iodo, nitrogen, phosphorus, sulfur and oxygen, e.g. Ar may be selected from the group consisting of monocyclic and bicyclic aryl and heteroaryl, including both fused and non-fused dicyclic aryl or heteroaryl, e.g. phenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, pyrrolyl, furyl, thienyl, etc. and substituted derivatives thereof; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Preferably, Ar is a monocyclic aryl or heteroaryl, e.g., phenyl or pyrrolyl.

Preferably R^5 and R^6 are hydrogen.

Preferably R^3 is H and R^4 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, e.g. n-butyl, or alkyloxyalkyl, e.g. methyloxypropyl, or R^3 and R^4 , together with the nitrogen atom forms a cyclic ring having 5 or 6 members, e.g., a 6 member ring, which may include an enchaind oxygen or nitrogen atom, e.g. R^3 and R^4 may, together with the nitrogen atom may be morpholinyl or piperidinyl and said morpholinyl or said piperidinyl ring may be substituted with one or more lower alkyl groups, e.g., methyl.

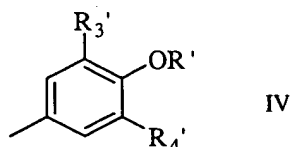
Preferably, X is O and Y is CH_2 and R may be di(lower)alkyl amino, e.g., dimethyl amino.

Preferably, Ar is phenyl or pyrrolyl and R may be lower alkyl, e.g., methyl, or morpholinyl.

In one preferred embodiment of the invention, the R^3 and R^4 together with the nitrogen atom form a cyclic ring having from 3 to 8, e.g., 5 or 6, members and more preferably said cyclic ring includes an enchaind oxygen atom or a second nitrogen atom. That is, R^3 and R^4 together with the nitrogen atom may be pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl or morpholinyl.

In another preferred embodiment R^3 is hydrogen and R^4 is alkyl or alkyloxyalkyl.

In one preferred embodiment of formula II A is $-NH-$, Ar is

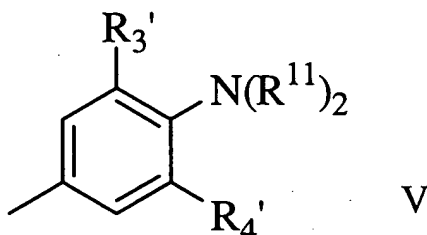


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wherein R_3' , and R_4' are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, alkaryl, alkaryloxy, halogen, trihalomethyl, $S(O)R^2$, $SO_2(R^2)_2$, $SO_3 R^2$, SR^2 , NO_2 , $N(R^2)_2$, OH , CN , $C(O)R^2$, $OC(O)R^2$, $NHC(O)R^2$, $(CH_2)_dCO_2R^2$, and $(CH_2)_dCON(R^2)_2$;

- 10 R' is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, haloalkyl, $(CR^8R^9)_dC(O)OR^2$, $(CR^8R^9)_eOR^2$, or $(CR^8R^9)_eN(R^2)_2$, or $(CR^8R^9)_eR^7$, wherein d , e , R^2 , R^7 , R^8 and R^9 are as defined above.

In another preferred embodiment of formula II A is $-NH-$, Ar is



- 15 wherein R_3' and R_4' are as defined above, R^{11} is R^1 or R^{11} taken together with the nitrogen atom may be a 5 or 6 membered ring which may have an enchain oxygen atom or a second nitrogen atom, for example morpholinyl, piperidinyl piperziny, etc.

- In yet another preferred embodiment of formula II, A is absent, Ar is a five
 20 membered heteroaryl ring selected from the group consisting of furyl, thiophene, pyrrole, 2,4-dimethylpyrrole, 2,4-dimethyl-3-pyrrole-propionic acid, pyrazole, imidazole, 1, 2, 3-triazole, 1, 2, 4-triazole, oxazole, isoxazole, thiazole, isothiazole, 2-sulfonylfuran, 4-alkylfuran, 1, 2,3-oxadiazole, 1,2,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,5-oxadiazole, 1,3,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,3,4-oxatriazole, 1,2,3,5-oxatriazole, 1,2,3-thiadiazole, 1,2,4-
 25 thiadiazole, 1,2,5-thiadiazole, and tetrazole, optionally substituted at one or more

positions with R^2 , $O(CR^8R^9)_eN(R^2)_2$, $(CR^8R^9)_dN(R^2)_2$ or $NR^2(CR^8R^9)_eN(R^2)_2$
 $(CR^8R^9)_dC(O)OR^2$, $O(CR^8R^9)_eR^7$, $(CR^8R^9)_dR^7$ and $NR^2(CR^8R^9)_eR^7$, wherein d, e,
 R^2 , R^7 , R^8 and R^9 are as defined above.

In yet another preferred embodiment of formula II A is $-NH-$, Ar is a five
 5 membered heteroaryl ring selected from the group consisting of furyl, thiophene,
 pyrrole, 2,4-dimethylpyrrole, pyrazole, imidazole, 1, 2, 3-triazole, 1, 2, 4-triazole,
 oxazole, isoxazole, thiazole, isothiazole, 2-sulfonylfuran, 4-alkylfuran, 1, 2,3-
 oxadiazole, 1,2,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,5-oxadiazole, 1,3,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,3,4-
 oxatriazole, 1,2,3,5-oxatriazole, 1,2,3-thiadiazole, 1,2,4-thiadiazole, 1,2,5-
 10 thiatriazole, and tetrazole, optionally substituted at one or more positions with with
 R^2 , $O(CR^8R^9)_eN(R^2)_2$, $(CR^8R^9)_dN(R^2)_2$, $NR^2(CR^8R^9)_eN(R^2)_2$, $(CR^8R^9)_dC(O)OR^2$,
 $O(CR^8R^9)_eR^7$, $(CR^8R^9)_dR^7$ and $NR^2(CR^8R^9)_eR^7$ and wherein d, e, R^2 , R^7 , R^8 and R^9
 are as defined above.

In a preferred embodiment of formula III; X is O or CH_2 ;
 15 Y is $[C(R^2)_2]_c$;
 R^1 is selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, C_1 to C_4 alkyl;
 R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 to C_8 alkyl, ,
 $(CR^8R^9)_dC(O)OR^{10}$;
 R is selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_1 to C_8 alkyl, CF_3 , OCF_3 ,
 20 OCF_2H , $(CR^8R^9)_dC(O)OR^2$, $(CR^8R^9)_dC(O)N(R^2)_2$, $HNC(O)R^2$, $HN-C(O)OR^2$,
 $(CR^8R^9)_dN(R^2)_2$, $SO_2(CR^8R^9)_dN(R^2)_2$, $O(CR^8R^9)_eR^7$ and $(CR^8R^9)_dR^7$, -
 $NR^2(CR^8R^9)_eR^7$ wherein d, e, R^2 , R^7 , R^8 and R^9 are as defined above.

The present invention is further directed to pharmaceutical compositions
 comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of the above-described compounds
 25 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient. Such a composition is
 believed to modulate signal transduction by a tyrosine kinase, either by inhibition of
 catalytic activity, affinity to ATP or ability to interact with a substrate.

More particularly, the compositions of the present invention may be
 included in methods for treating diseases comprising proliferation, fibrotic or

metabolic disorders, for example cancer, fibrosis, psoriasis, atherosclerosis, arthritis, and other disorders related to abnormal vasculogenesis and/or angiogenesis, such as diabetic retinopathy.

"Pharmaceutically acceptable salt" refers to those salts which retain the biological effectiveness and properties of the free bases and which are obtained by reaction with inorganic acids such as hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, phosphoric acid, methanesulfonic acid, ethanesulfonic acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, salicylic acid and the like.

"Alkyl" refers to a straight-chain, branched or cyclic saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon. Preferably, the alkyl group has 1 to 12 carbons. More preferably, it is a lower alkyl of from 1 to 7 carbons, most preferably 1 to 4 carbons. Typical alkyl groups include methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, tertiary butyl, pentyl, hexyl and the like. The alkyl group may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, cyano, alkoxy, =O, =S, NO₂, halogen, dimethyl amino, and SH.

"Alkenyl" refers to a straight-chain, branched or cyclic unsaturated hydrocarbon group containing at least one carbon-carbon double bond. Preferably, the alkenyl group has 1 to 12 carbons. More preferably it is a lower alkenyl of from 1 to 7 carbons, most preferably 1 to 4 carbons. The alkenyl group may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, cyano, alkoxy, =O, =S, NO₂, halogen, dimethyl amino, and SH.

"Alkynyl" refers to a straight-chain, branched or cyclic unsaturated hydrocarbon containing at least one carbon-carbon triple bond. Preferably, the alkynyl group has 1 to 12 carbons. More preferably it is a lower alkynyl of from 1 to 7 carbons, most preferably 1 to 4 carbons. The alkynyl group may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, cyano, alkoxy, =O, =S, NO₂, halogen, dimethyl amino, and SH.

"Alkoxyl" refers to an "O-alkyl" group.

"Aryl" refers to an aromatic group which has at least one ring having a conjugated pi electron system and includes carbocyclic aryl, heterocyclic aryl and biaryl groups. The aryl group may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, trihalomethyl, hydroxyl, SH, OH, NO₂, amine, thioether, cyano, alkoxy, alkyl, and amino.

"Alkaryl" refers to an alkyl that is covalently joined to an aryl group. Preferably, the alkyl is a lower alkyl.

"Carbocyclic aryl" refers to an aryl group wherein the ring atoms are carbon.

"Heterocyclic aryl" refers to an aryl group having from 1 to 3 heteroatoms as ring atoms, the remainder of the ring atoms being carbon. Heteroatoms include oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen. Thus, heterocyclic aryl groups include furanyl, thienyl, pyridyl, pyrrolyl, N-lower alkyl pyrrolo, pyrimidyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and the like.

"Hydrocarbyl" refers to a hydrocarbon radical having only carbon and hydrogen atoms. Preferably, the hydrocarbyl radical has from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, more preferably from 1 to 12 carbon atoms and most preferably from 1 to 7 carbon atoms.

"Substituted hydrocarbyl" refers to a hydrocarbyl radical wherein one or more, but not all, of the hydrogen and/or the carbon atoms are replaced by a halogen, nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical including a halogen, nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom, e.g. fluoro, chloro, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, oxa, oxo, phosphate, thiol, etc.

"Amide" refers to -C(O)-NH-R, wherein R is alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl or hydrogen.

"Thioamide" refers to -C(S)-NH-R, wherein R is alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl or hydrogen.

"Amine" refers to a -N(R')R" group, wherein R' and R" are independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, and alkylaryl.

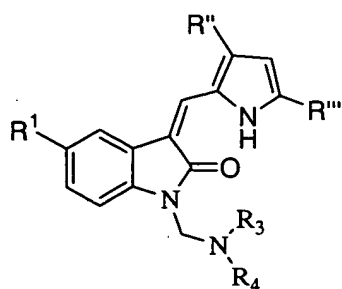
"Thioether" refers to -S-R, wherein R is alkyl, aryl, or alkylaryl.

"Sulfonyl" refers to $-S(O)_2-R$, where R is aryl, $C(CN)=C$ -aryl, CH_2CN , alkyaryl, sulfonamide, NH-alkyl, NH-alkylaryl, or NH-aryl.

In particular the compounds of the present invention are selected from the compounds of Table 1 – Table 3, below.

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Table 1: Substituted 1-Aminomethyl-3-(1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one Analogs

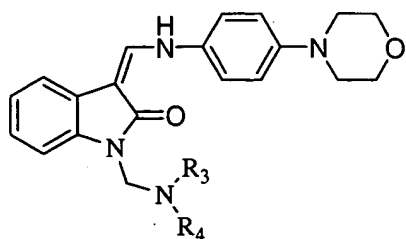


Example #	R ¹	NR ₃ R ₄	R''	R'''
2	H	N(CH ₂) ₅	H	H
3	H	N(CH ₂) ₂ O(CH ₂) ₂	H	H
4	H	N(CH ₂) ₂ N(CH ₃)(CH ₂) ₂	H	H
5	H	NHCH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃	H	H
6	H	NHCH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₃	H	H
8	5-Cl	N(CH ₂) ₅	CH ₃	CH ₃
9	5-Cl	N(CH ₂) ₂ O(CH ₂) ₂	CH ₃	CH ₃

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Table 2: Substituted 1-Aminomethyl-3-[(4-morpholin-4-yl-phenylamino)-methylene]-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one Analogs

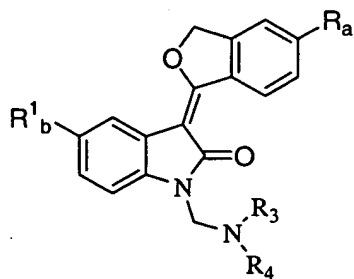
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Example #	NR ₃ R ₄
12	N(CH ₂) ₅
13	N(CH ₂) ₂ O(CH ₂) ₂

Table 3: Substituted 1-Aminomethyl-3-(3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one Analogs

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Example #	R ¹ _b	R _a	NR ₃ R ₄
15	H	H	N(CH ₂) ₅
16	H	H	N(CH ₂) ₂ O(CH ₂) ₂
19	H	N(CH ₃) ₂	N(CH ₂) ₅
21	5-Cl	N(CH ₃) ₂	N(CH ₂) ₅

Note in Examples 15, 16 and 19, b is 0, therefore R¹ is given as H. In Examples 15 and 16 a is 0, therefore R is given as H.

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The present invention relates to compounds capable of regulating and/or modulating tyrosine kinase signal transduction and more particularly receptor and non-receptor tyrosine kinase signal transduction.

Receptor tyrosine kinase mediated signal transduction is initiated by extracellular interaction with a specific growth factor (ligand), followed by receptor

dimerization, transient stimulation of the intrinsic protein tyrosine kinase activity and phosphorylation. Binding sites are thereby created for intracellular signal transduction molecules and lead to the formation of complexes with a spectrum of cytoplasmic signaling molecules that facilitate the appropriate cellular response (e.g., cell division, metabolic effects and responses to the extracellular microenvironment).

It has been shown that tyrosine phosphorylation sites in growth factor receptors function as high-affinity binding sites for SH2 (src homology) domains of signaling molecules. Several intracellular substrate proteins that associate with receptor tyrosine kinases have been identified. They may be divided into two principal groups: (1) substrates which have a catalytic domain; and (2) substrates which lack such domain but serve as adapters and associate with catalytically active molecules. The specificity of the interactions between receptors and SH2 domains of their substrates is determined by the amino acid residues immediately surrounding the phosphorylated tyrosine residue. Differences in the binding affinities between SH2 domains and the amino acid sequences surrounding the phosphotyrosine residues on particular receptors are consistent with the observed differences in their substrate phosphorylation profiles. These observations suggest that the function of each receptor tyrosine kinase is determined not only by its pattern of expression and ligand availability but also by the array of downstream signal transduction pathways that are activated by a particular receptor. Thus, phosphorylation provides an important regulatory step which determines the selectivity of signaling pathways recruited by specific growth factor receptors, as well as differentiation factor receptors.

Tyrosine kinase signal transduction results in, among other responses, cell proliferation, differentiation and metabolism. Abnormal cell proliferation may result in a wide array of disorders and diseases, including the development of neoplasia such as carcinoma, sarcoma, leukemia, glioblastoma, hemangioma, psoriasis, arteriosclerosis, arthritis and diabetic retinopathy (or other disorders

related to uncontrolled angiogenesis and/or vasculogenesis, e.g. macular degeneration).

This invention is therefore directed to compounds which regulate, modulate and/or inhibit tyrosine kinase signal transduction by affecting the enzymatic activity of the RTKs and/or the non-receptor tyrosine kinases and interfering with the signal transduced by such proteins. More particularly, the present invention is directed to compounds which regulate, modulate and/or inhibit the RTK and/or non-receptor tyrosine kinase mediated signal transduction pathways as a therapeutic approach to cure many kinds of solid tumors, including but not limited to carcinoma, sarcoma, leukemia, erythroblastoma, glioblastoma, meningioma, astrocytoma, melanoma and myoblastoma. Indications may include, but are not limited to brain cancers, bladder cancers, ovarian cancers, gastric cancers, pancreas cancers, colon cancers, blood cancers, lung cancers and bone cancers.

Chemical Stability

The chemical stability of Example 12 of the invention has been studied using buffers at pH 1, pH 3 and pH 7. Example 12 prepared in acetonitrile at 200 µg/mL and diluted to 20 µg/mL in buffers at pH 1, pH 3 and pH 7. Example 12 was measured to have a half-life ($t_{1/2}$) of approximately 20 hours at pH 3 and 38 hours at pH 1. The half-life ($t_{1/2}$) of Example 12 at pH 7.4 was less than 30 minutes.

Biological data for the compounds of the present invention was generated by use of the following assays.

VEGF Stimulated Ca^{++} Signal in vitro

Automated FLIPR (Fluorometric Imaging Plate Reader) technology was used to screen for inhibitors of VEGF induced increases in intracellular calcium levels in fluorescent dye loaded endothelial cells. HUVEC (human umbilical vein endothelial cells) (Clonetics) were seeded in 96-well fibronectin coated black-walled plates overnight at 37°C/5%CO₂. Cells were loaded with calcium indicator

Fluo-4 for 45 minutes at 37°C. Cells were washed 4 times (Original Cell Wash, Labsystems) to remove extracellular dye. Test compounds were reconstituted in 100% DMSO and added to the cells to give a final DMSO concentration of 0.1%. For screening, cells were pre-incubated with test agents for 30 minutes, at a single concentration (10 μ M) or at concentrations ranging from 0.01 to 10.0 μ M followed by VEGF stimulation (5ng/mL). Changes in fluorescence at 516 nm were measured simultaneously in all 96 wells using a cooled CCD camera. Data were generated by determining max-min fluorescence levels for unstimulated, stimulated, and drug treated samples. IC₅₀ values for test compounds were calculated from % inhibition of VEGF stimulated responses in the absence of inhibitor.

VEGFR2 Kinase Assay

The cytoplasmic domain of the human VEGF receptor (VEGFR-2) was expressed as a Histidine-tagged fusion protein following infection of insect cells using an engineered baculovirus. His-VEGFR-2 was purified to homogeneity, as determined by SDS-PAGE, using nickel resin chromatography. Kinase assays were performed in 96 well microtiter plates that were coated overnight with 30 μ g of poly-Glu-Tyr (4:1) in 10mM Phosphate Buffered Saline (PBS), pH 7.2-7.4. The plates were incubated with 1% BSA and then washed four times with PBS prior to starting the reaction. Reactions were carried out in 120 μ L reaction volumes containing 3.6 μ M ATP in kinase buffer (50mM Hepes buffer pH 7.4, 20mM MgCl₂, 0.1 mM MnCl₂ and 0.2 mM Na₃VO₄). Test compounds were reconstituted in 100% DMSO and added to the reaction to give a final DMSO concentration of 5%. Reactions were initiated by the addition 0.5 ng of purified protein. Following a ten minute incubation at 25° C., the reactions were washed four times with PBS containing 0.05% Tween-20. 100 μ l of a monoclonal anti-phosphotyrosine antibody-peroxidase conjugate was diluted 1:10000 in PBS-Tween-20 and added to the wells for 30 minutes. Following four washes with PBS-Tween-20, 100 μ l of O-phenylenediamine Dihydrochloride in Phosphate-citrate buffer, containing urea

hydrogen peroxide, was added to the wells for 7 minutes as a colorimetric substrate for the peroxidase. The reaction was terminated by the addition of 100µl of 2.5N H₂SO₄ to each well and read using a microplate ELISA reader set at 492 nm. IC₅₀ values for compound inhibition were calculated directly from graphs of optical density (arbitrary units) versus compound concentration following subtraction of blank values.

VEGF-induced Dermal Extravasation in Guinea Pig (Miles Assay).

Male Hartley guinea pigs (300–600 g) were anesthetized with isoflurane, sheared, and given a single dose of drug or the respective vehicle. The guinea pigs were dosed orally unless indicated otherwise in Table 3. Ten minutes prior to the end of drug treatment, guinea pigs were anesthetized with isoflurane, and 0.5% Evans blue dye (EBD) in PBS (13-15 mg/kg dose of EBD) was injected intravenously. After 5 minutes, triplicate intradermal injections of 100 ng rhVEGF₁₆₅ in 100 µl PBS and of 100 µl PBS alone were administered on the flank. After 20 minutes, each animal was euthanized with Pentosol, and the skin containing the intradermal injection sites was removed for image analysis.

Using an analog video camera coupled to a PC, an image of each trans-illuminated skin sample was captured, and the integrated optical density of each injection site was measured using ImagePro 4. For each skin sample, the difference between the mean optical density of the VEGF sites and mean optical density of the PBS sites is the measure of VEGF-induced EBD extravasation in that animal. These measured values were averaged per study group to determine the mean VEGF-induced EBD extravasation for each experimental condition, and the group means were then compared to assess inhibition of VEGF-induced EBD extravasation in the drug-treated groups relative to the vehicle-treated controls.

To determine the dose required for 50% inhibition (ID₅₀), the percent inhibition data was plotted as a function of oral dose, using the 'best-fit' analysis within MicroSoft Excel software. The ID₅₀ value was verified visually by using the

plotted data (horizontal line from 50% y value, at intersection with best-fit line drop vertical line to x axis (dose).

Laser-induced Choroidal Neovascularization (CNV) in Rat (CNV Assay).

CNV was induced and quantified in this model as previously described (Edelman and Castro. *Exp. Eye Res.* 2000; 71:523-533). On day 0, male Brown Norway rats (200-300 g) were anesthetized with 100 mg/kg Ketamine and 10 mg/kg Xylazine, and pupils were dilated with 1% Tropicamide. Using the blue-green setting of a Coherent Novus Argon Laser, 3 laser burns (90 mW for 0.1 s; 100 μ m diameter) were given to each eye between the retinal vessels around the optic nerve head.

10 Rats were dosed with test compounds in their indicated vehicles orally once daily.

On day 10, rats were sacrificed with 100% CO₂, and blood vessels were labeled by vascular perfusion with 10 mg/ml FITC-dextran (MW 2x10⁶). Using an epifluorescence microscope (20x) coupled to a spot digital camera and a PC, images were obtained from the flat mounts of the RPE-choroid-sclera from each eye, and the area occupied by hyperfluorescent neovessels within each laser lesion was measured using ImagePro 4 software.

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To determine the dose required for 50% inhibition (ID₅₀), the percent inhibition data was plotted as a function of oral dose, using the 'best-fit' analysis within MicroSoft Excel software. The ID₅₀ value was verified visually by using the plotted data (horizontal line from 50% y value, at intersection with best-fit line drop vertical line to x axis (dose).

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The results of said assays are set forth in Table 4- 6, below.

Table 4: VEGF Stimulated Ca⁺⁺ Signal Assay and VEGF Kinase Assay Data

Example #	VEGF Stimulated Ca ⁺⁺ Signal Assay IC ₅₀ (nM)	VEGFR2 Kinase Assay IC ₅₀ (nM)
11	294	260
12	432	478
13	722	3858

Example #	VEGF Stimulated Ca ⁺⁺ Signal Assay IC ₅₀ (nM)	VEGFR2 Kinase Assay IC ₅₀ (nM)
14	110	
15		
16		
18	22	31
19	120	133
20	33	22

Table 5: VEGF-induced Dermal Extravasation in Guinea Pig (Miles Assay) Results

Example #	Vehicle	% Inhibition @ Dose (mg/Kg)	ID ₅₀
11	corn oil	40% @ 75 mg/Kg	
12	corn oil	88% @ 75 mg/Kg	36 mg/Kg
13	corn oil	35% @ 75 mg/Kg	

Table 6: Rat Laser Choroidal Angiogenesis Assay Results

Example #	Vehicle	% Inhibition @ Dose (mg/Kg)	ID ₅₀
12	corn oil	94% @ 80 mg/Kg (sid)	36 mg/Kg

5 sid = once daily dosing

The invention is further illustrated by the following non-limiting examples.

Example 1

10

Preparation of Z-(1H-Pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A mixture of oxindole (137 mg, 1.03 mmol), pyrrole-2-carboxaldehyde (115.1 mg, 1.21 mmol) and piperidine (40 μ L, 0.404 mmol) in 2.0 mL MeOH was heated at reflux for 3h. The mixture was cooled in an ice bath and

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the solid which formed was collected by filtration to give the title compounds (208 mg, 96 %) as a yellow solid.

Example 2

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Preparation of 1-Piperidin-1-ylmethyl-3-(1-H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A solution of Z-(1H-Pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (0.60 g, 2.85 mmol), paraformaldehyde (0.13 g, 4.28 mmol) and piperidine (0.24 g, 2.85 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) was heated to 60-70° C for 14 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to -20° C for 1 h and the fine yellow solid present was collected by filtration. The solid collected was dried under vacuum to give the title compound as a yellow solid (0.68 g, 77%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO) δ 13.17 (br s, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (ddd, *J* = 7.3, 7.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (m, 1H), 6.37 (m, 1H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 2.54 (br s, 4H), 1.46 (m, 4H), 1.33 (br m, 2H).

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Example 3

Preparation of 1-Morpholin-4-ylmethyl-3-(1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A mixture of Z-(1H-Pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (120 mg, 0.57 mmol), paraformaldehyde (32 mg, 1.1 mmol), and morpholine (62.2 μL, 0.71 mmol) in 8.0 mL of 20% dioxane in EtOH was heated at reflux for 19.5 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and paraformaldehyde (10.0 mg, 0.33 mmol), morpholine (15 μL, 0.17 mmol) and EtOH (7 mL) was added. The

reaction mixture refluxed for 24 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated. The residue was dissolved in 15 mL of CHCl_3 and treated with activated charcoal. The resulting suspension was filtered and the filtrate concentrated. The residue was crystallization from ethyl acetate/hexane to give the title compound (88.0 mg, 50%) as a bright yellow solid.

^1H NMR (500 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ 13.03 (br s, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.35 (br s, 1H), 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.05 (m, 1H), 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.35 (m, 1H), 4.56 (s, 2H), 3.52 (m, 4H), 2.53 (m, 4H).

Example 4

Preparation of 1-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-3-(1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A mixture of Z-(1H-Pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (120 mg, 0.57 mmol), paraformaldehyde (17 mg, 0.57 mmol), and 1-methylpiperazine (63 μL , 0.57 mmol) in 4.0 mL EtOH was heated at reflux for 6.5 h. After standing at room temperature for 23 h, the mixture was concentrated to 3 mL solvent and 1 mL of hexane added. The resulting solution was cooled to 0 °C and the yellow solid which formed was collected by filtration. The solid collected was partitioned between 30 mL dilute HCl and 20 mL Ethyl acetate. The organic layer was removed and the aqueous layer washed with ethyl acetate (15 mL). The aqueous layer was made basic to pH 8 with saturated NaHCO_3 and extracted with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate layer was washed with H_2O , brine and dried with Na_2SO_4 . The organic layer was concentrated and the residue was crystallized from ethyl acetate /hexane to give the title compound (38 mg, 21%) as a bright yellow solid.

^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.35 (br s, 1H), 7.46 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.19 (dd, $J = 7.8, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (br s, 1H), 7.06 (dd, $J = 7.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H),

7.02 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.75 (m, 1H), 6.36 (m, 1H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 2.69 (br s, 4H), 2.41 (br s, 4H), 2.24 (s, 3H).

Example 5

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Preparation of 1-[(3-Methoxy-propylamino)-methyl]-3-(1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A mixture of Z-(1H-Pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (120.0 mg, 0.571 mmol), paraformaldehyde (17.1 mg, 0.571 mmol), and 3-methoxypropylamine (58.2 μ L, 0.571 mmol) in 4.0 mL EtOH was heated at reflux for 6.5 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and let stand for 22 h. The reaction mixture was filtered and the filter cake rinsed with 30% ethyl acetate in hexane. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo and 4 mL of EtOH added. The reaction was refluxed an additional 19.5 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and partitioned between 30 mL dilute HCl and 20 mL Ethyl acetate. The organic layer was removed and the aqueous layer washed with 15 mL ethyl acetate. The aqueous layer was made basic to pH 8 with saturated NaHCO₃ and extracted with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate layer was washed with H₂O, brine and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The ethyl acetate layer was filtered and then concentrated. The solid obtained (42.5 mg) was dissolved in CHCl₃ and purified by chromatography (silica gel, 1:1/hexane:acetone) to give the title compound (1.5 mg, 1%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.40 (br s, 1H), 7.50 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.07 (m, 1H), 6.95 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.77 (m, 1H), 6.38 (m, 1H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 3.37 (t, $J = 6.3$ Hz, 2H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.69 (t, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 2H), 1.72 (quintet, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 2H).

Example 6

Preparation of 1-Butylaminomethyl-3-(1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

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A mixture of Z-(1H-Pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (120.0 mg, 0.571 mmol), paraformaldehyde (17.1 mg, 0.571 mmol), and butylamine (56.4 μ L, 0.571 mmol) in 5.5 mL of EtOH was heated at reflux for 2.5 h. Then reaction mixture was treated with 2 mL of hexane and then cooled to 0 °C. The reaction mixture was then filtered to remove Z-(1H-Pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one. The filtrate was partitioned between dilute HCl and ethyl acetate. The organic layer was removed and the aqueous layer washed with 15 mL Ethyl acetate. The aqueous phase was made basic to pH 8 with saturated NaHCO₃ and extracted with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate layer was washed with H₂O, brine and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed in vacuo to give 58 mg of yellow oil. The oil was purified by chromatography (silica gel, 1:1/hexane:ethyl acetate) to give the title compound (51.6 mg, 31%) as a yellow solid.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.41 (br s, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (s, 1H), 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.17 (br s, 1H), 7.09 (m, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (m, 1H), 6.39 (m, 1H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 2.61 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.29 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H).

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Example 7

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Preparation of 5-chloro-3-(1H-pyrrol-2-yl-methylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A mixture of 5-chlorooxindole (6.98 g, 41.6 mmol), 3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxaldehyde (5.12 g, 41.6 mmol) and piperidine (410 μ L, 4.16 mmol) in 200 mL of EtOH was heated at reflux for 8 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered to give the title compound (4.50 g, 40%) as a red/orange solid.

Example 8

Preparation of 5-Chloro-3-(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

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A suspension of 5-chloro-3-(1H-pyrrol-2-yl-methylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (260 mg, 0.96 mmol), piperidine (95 μ L, 0.96 mmol) and paraformaldehyde (43 mg, 1.44 mmol) in 5 mL of dioxane and 5 mL of EtOH was heated to 80° C for 15 h. The resulting solution was cooled to room temperature followed by cooling to -20° C for 1 h. The solid which formed was collected by filtration and rinsed with EtOH (previously cooled to -20° C). The solid collected was dried under vacuum to give the title compound (180 mg, 51%) as a yellow-orange solid.

Example 9

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Preparation of 5-Chloro-3-(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-1-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A suspension of 5-chloro-3-(1H-pyrrol-2-yl-methylene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (120 mg, 0.44 mmol), morpholine (39 μ L, 0.44 mmol) and paraformaldehyde (20 mg, 0.66 mmol) in 8 mL of dioxane and 2 mL of EtOH was heated to 80° C for 15 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and treated with morpholine (25 μ L, 0.28 mmol) and paraformaldehyde (16 mg, 0.50 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated at 80° C for 4 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and partially concentrated under a nitrogen stream.

The reaction mixture was cooled to -20° C. The solid which formed was collected by filtration and rinsed with EtOH (previously cooled to -20° C). The solid collected was dried under vacuum to give the title compound (85 mg, 52%) as an orange solid.

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Example 10

Preparation of 3-Hydroxymethylene-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

10 To a slurry of oxindole (1.33 g, 10.0 mmol) and ethyl formate (2.42 mL, 30.0 mmol) was added 4.85 mL of 21 wt. % NaOEt in EtOH. The thick solution was stirred for 30 min at room temperature and then heated at reflux for 30 min. The solution was acidified to pH=3 with 10% aqueous HCl and 5 mL H₂O was added. The solid which formed was filtered and rinsed with H₂O to give the title
15 compound (1.34 g, 83%) as a pale yellow solid.

Example 11

Preparation of 3-[(4-morpholinophenylamino)-methylene]-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

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A solution of 4-morpholinoaniline (8.3 g, 51.5 mmol) in 100 mL of tetrahydrofuran was treated with 3-hydroxymethylene-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (5.5 g, 30.9 mmol) in one portion. The reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 3h.
25 The reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was treated with 125 mL of ethyl acetate and the resulting suspension was heated at 40° C for 2 h. The suspension was cooled to room temperature and the solid collected by suction filtration and washed with ethyl acetate. The solid obtained was dried under vacuum to give the title compound (10.1 g, 92%) as a yellow solid.

Example 12

5 Preparation of 3-[(4-Morpholin-4-yl-phenylamino)-methylene]-1-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

 A solution of 3-[(4-morpholinophenylamino)-methylene]-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (17.3 g, 53.8 mmol) and paraformaldehyde (2.43 g, 80.9 mmol.) in 125 mL of EtOH was treated with piperidine (5.87 mL, 59.3 mmol). The reaction
10 mixture was then heated at a reflux temperature for 5 hours during which time a yellow precipitate formed. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and the solid was collected by filtration and washed with EtOH and dried under vacuum to give the title compound (21.5 g, 95%) as a yellow solid.

15 Example 13

Preparation of 1-Morpholin-4-ylmethyl-3-[(4-morpholin-4-yl-phenylamino)-methylene]-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

20 A solution of 3-[(4-morpholinophenylamino)-methylene]-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (0.71 g, 2.21 mmol) and paraformaldehyde (0.10 g, 3.33 mmol.) in 8 mL of EtOH was treated with morpholine (213 μ L, 2.44 mmol). The reaction mixture was then heated at a reflux temperature overnight during which time a yellow precipitate formed. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room
25 temperature and the solid was collected by filtration and washed with EtOH and dried under vacuum to give the title compound (0.769 g, 83%) as a yellow solid.

Example 14

Preparation of 3-(3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

5 To a suspension of sodium hydride (6.0 g, 150 mmol, 60% in mineral oil) in 300 mL DMF was added oxindole (10.0 g, 75.1 mmol) in 50 mL DMF over 8 min. After stirring for 15 min at room temperature, a solution of phthalide (13.1 g, 97.6 mmol) in 50 mL DMF was added over 1 min. The mixture was stirred for 1.25 h, then poured into 1100 mL H₂O. Addition of 4% aqueous HCl solution gave a
10 yellow solid which was filtered and rinsed with H₂O to give the title compound (8.75 g, 47%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO) δ 10.41 (s, 1H), 9.65 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.10 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (s, 2H).

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Example 15

Preparation of 3-(3H-Isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

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A mixture of 3-(3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (4.32 g, 17.3 mmol), paraformaldehyde (0.99 g, 32.9 mmol), and piperidine (2.14 mL, 21.7 mmol) in 192 mL EtOH and 48 mL dioxane was heated at reflux for 18.5 h. The solution was concentrated in vacuo to a volume of 100 mL and then refluxed for 1 h to dissolve the precipitant. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and the precipitate filtered to give the title compound (3.728 g) as a bright yellow solid. An additional 0.52 g of the title compound was obtained by crystallization of the filtrate from ethyl acetate. The two lots were combined to give 4.248 g (71%) of the title compound as a bright yellow solid.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO) δ 9.67 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (s, 2H), 4.50 (s, 2H), 2.52 (br s, 4H), 1.45 (m, 4H), 1.32 (br s, 2H).

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Example 16

Preparation of 3-(3H-Isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

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A mixture of 3-(3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (4.32 g, 17.3 mmol), paraformaldehyde (0.99 g, 32.9 mmol), and morpholine (1.89 mL, 21.7 mmol) in 192 mL EtOH and 48 mL dioxane was heated at reflux for 18.5 h. The solution was concentrated in vacuo to a volume of 100 mL and then refluxed for 1 h to dissolve the precipitate. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and the solid which formed was collected by filtration to give 4.19 g of a bright yellow solid. An additional 0.72 g of yellow solid was obtained by crystallization of the filtrate from ethyl acetate. The combined material was crystallized from ethyl acetate give the title compound (2.49 g, 41%) as a fine yellow needles.

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^1H NMR (500 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ 9.67 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.05 (m, 1H), 5.84 (s, 2H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 3.53 (m, 4H), 2.54 (br s, 4H).

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Example 17

Preparation of 5-Dimethylaminophthalide.

Sodium cyanoborohydride (8.42g, 134 mmol) was added into a stirred
 10 suspension of 5-aminophthalide (5.0g, 33.5mmol) and 37% $\text{CH}_2\text{O}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ solution
 (24.9 mL, 335 mmol) in 120 mL of acetonitrile. The mixture was stirred at room
 temperature for 1 hour, cooled to 0°C and 120 mL of 10% aqueous acetic acid
 solution was added. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 1 hour,
 evaporated under low pressure until no acetonitrile remained. The resulting
 15 mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (2x125 mL). The combined organic
 extracts were washed with saturated NaHCO_3 solution (125 mL) and brine (125
 mL), dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated to dryness to give a light brown solid,
 which was triturated with hot MeOH (10 mL) to give the title compound (3.9 g,
 66%) as an off-white solid.

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Example 18

Preparation of 3-(5-Dimethylamino-3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

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A solution of oxindole (938 mg, 7.05 mmol) in 20 mL of DME was cooled
 to 0°C , and treated with 6.2 mL of 2.5M n-BuLi / hexane solution (15.5 mmol)
 dropwise under nitrogen. The mixture was stirred at 0°C for 10 minutes. 5-
 dimethylaminophthalide (1.0 g, 5.64 mmol) was added as one portion. The mixture

was allowed to warm to room temperature under nitrogen and stirring was continued for 3 hours. The cloudy mixture was then slowly added into 0.5M aqueous HCl solution (0° C) with vigorous stirring. The resulting mixture was neutralized with 1M NaOH solution until pH = 9. The yellow precipitate which formed was collected by filtration, washed with water, dried under vacuum. The solid obtained was triturated with hot MeOH (20 mL), collected by filtration and dried to give title compound (990 mg, 60%) as a bright yellow powder.

Example 19

Preparation of 3-(5-Dimethylamino-3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A mixture of 3-(5-Dimethylamino-3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (550mg, 1.88mmol), paraformaldehyde (141mg, 4.7mmol) and piperidine (240mg, 2.82mmol) in 20mL of EtOH was stirred at reflux for overnight and cooled to room temperature. The solid which formed on cooling was collected by filtration, washed with EtOH (5 mL) and dried under vacuum to give the title compound (655mg, 89%) as bright yellow crystals.

Example 20

Preparation of 5-Chloro-3-(5-dimethylamino-3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A solution of 5-chlorooxindole (1.18 mg, 7.05mmol) in 20mL of DME was cooled to 0°C, and treated with 6.2mL of 2.5M n-BuLi / hexane solution (15.5mmol) dropwise under nitrogen. The mixture was stirred at 0°C for 10 minutes. 5-dimethylaminophthalide (1.0g, 5.64mmol) was added as one portion.

The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature under nitrogen and stirring was continued for 3 hours. The cloudy mixture was then slowly added into 0.5M aqueous HCl solution (0° C) with vigorous stirring. The resulting mixture was neutralized with 1M NaOH solution until pH = 9. The yellow precipitate which
5 formed was collected by filtration, washed with water, dried under vacuum. The solid obtained was triturated with hot MeOH (20mL) followed by ethyl acetate (10 mL), collected by filtration and dried to give title compound (900mg, 49%) as a bright yellow powder.

Example 21

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Preparation of 5-Chloro-3-(5-dimethylamino-3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-1-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one.

A mixture of 5-Chloro-3-(5-dimethylamino-3H-isobenzofuran-1-ylidene)-
15 1,3-dihydro-indol-2-one (400 mg, 1.22 mmol), paraformaldehyde (91 mg, 3.05 mmol) and piperidine (156 mg, 1.83 mmol) in 20 mL of EtOH was stirred at reflux for overnight and cooled to room temperature. The solid which formed on cooling was collected by filtration, washed with EtOH (5 mL) and dried under vacuum to give the title compound (500 mg, 97%) as bright yellow crystals.

20 The present invention is not to be limited in scope by the exemplified embodiments which are intended as illustrations of single aspects of the invention only. Indeed, various modifications of the invention in addition to those described herein will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the foregoing description. Such modifications are intended to fall within the scope of the
25 appended claims.

All references cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.